

Ellington Choir from the Duke Ellington School for the Performing Arts in Washington, DC; artist Peter Max; Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Jack Kemp; Jane A. Kenny, Director of ACTION; George Romney, former Governor of Michi-

gan and chairman of the board of directors of the National VOLUNTEER Center; Points of Light honorees Eve Dubrow, David Evans, Al Lewis, Van Standifer, and William W. Johnson; and Marlene Wilson, president of the Volunteer Management Association.

Nomination of Nicholas Platt To Be United States Ambassador to Pakistan

April 26, 1991

The President today announced his intention to nominate Nicholas Platt, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. He would succeed Robert B. Oakley.

Since 1987 Ambassador Platt has served as U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of the Philippines. Prior to this Ambassador Platt served as Special Assistant to the Secretary of State and Executive Secretary of the Department of State, 1985–1987; U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Zambia, 1982–1984; Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for International Organization Affairs, 1981–1982; and as Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs, 1980–1981. Ambassador Platt served as a staff member of the National Security Council at the White House, 1978–1980; Director for Japanese Affairs for the Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs at the Department of State, 1977–1978; deputy chief of the political section of the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo, Japan, 1974–1977;

and chief of the political section at the U.S. liaison office in Peking, China, 1973–1974. Ambassador Platt served at the Department of State as: Deputy Director and then Director of the Secretariat Staff, 1971–1973; chief of the Asian Communist areas division in the Bureau of Intelligence and Research, 1969–1971; and China desk officer for the Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs, 1968–1969. He also served as a political officer at the American consulate general in Hong Kong, 1964–1968; Chinese language training at the Foreign Service Institute and in Taichung, Taiwan, 1962–1963; and as vice consul of the American consulate in Windsor, Ontario, Canada, 1959–1961. Ambassador Platt entered the Foreign Service in 1959.

Ambassador Platt graduated from Harvard College (B.A., 1957) and the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (M.A., 1959). He was born March 10, 1936, in New York, NY. Ambassador Platt is married, has three children, and resides in Washington, DC.

Nomination of John Thomas McCarthy To Be United States Ambassador to Tunisia

April 26, 1991

The President today announced his intention to nominate John Thomas McCarthy, of New York, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Republic of Tunisia. He would succeed Robert H.

Pelletreau.

Ambassador McCarthy currently serves as a diplomat-in residence at Howard Universi-

ty and the University of the District of Columbia. From 1988 to 1990 Ambassador McCarthy served as the U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Lebanon, Beirut, and Deputy Chief of Mission at the U.S. Embassy in Islamabad, Pakistan, 1985–1988. Prior to this Ambassador McCarthy served at the Department of State as Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Bureau of Public Affairs, 1983–1985, and Director of the Office of Investment for the Economic Bureau, 1980–1983. He served at the U.S. Mission to the European Community in Brussels, Belgium, as economic counselor, 1978–1980, and as a trade officer, 1976–1978. Ambassador McCarthy served at the European Community desk in the European Bureau of the Department of State, 1973–1976; trained in Atlantic affairs at Harvard University, 1972–1973; as a polit-

ical officer for the Bureau of International Organizations at the Department of State, 1971–1972; and as vice consul at the American consulate in Chiang Mai, Thailand, 1969–1971. He also trained at the Foreign Service Institute in the Thai language, 1968; served at the operations center at the Department of State, 1967–1968; as second secretary at the U.S. Embassy in Brussels, Belgium, 1965–1967; and as third secretary at the U.S. Embassy in Bangui, Central African Republic, 1962–1964. He entered the Foreign Service in 1962.

Ambassador McCarthy graduated from Manhattan College (B.A., 1961) and Harvard University (M.P.A., 1973). He was born December 27, 1939, in New York, NY. Ambassador McCarthy is married, has three children, and resides in Washington, DC.

Remarks and a Question-and-Answer Session With the National Association of Farm Broadcasters *April 29, 1991*

The President. Sit down, please, and welcome, welcome. Let me just make a couple of comments and then try, with the assistance of our able Secretary of Agriculture, my friend and yours, too, Ed Madigan, to respond to your questions.

But in the first place, I'm delighted that Ed is here. I was very high on Clayton Yeutter—moved over to a new and very difficult and very different assignment. Ed stepped into the breach. He's doing a fantastic job for our country. And I understand that he's rapidly making believers out of those in ag business that didn't know him. Those that did I think already were believers, as I have been.

But anyway, we are the most agriculturally productive nation the world has ever known. And I want to be sure that we continue to be that. I'm still convinced that we can compete with anybody, provided we remove some of the barriers to trade. And that's one of the reasons that the Secretary and I are as committed to the successful conclusion of the GATT round; also why

I believe that a Mexico free trade agreement would be in our own best interests.

As a matter of fact, we've got a new one with Canada. It's been in effect for 2 years, and agricultural exports have gone up by 35 percent. So, those that want to criticize ought to take a look at the reality, and I think then they'd understand why we are committed—because we think it's good for American agriculture as well as good for—I think it's good for jobs, too. Just across the labor frontier there.

There are three important trade agreements. You're all familiar with them. The Uruguay round—the GATT talks; the trade component of our Enterprise for the Americas Initiative, which is, I think, a bold new program that must succeed in terms of helping these democracies—fledgling democracies, many of them—in South America and thus building new markets for our own goods. But in any event, that's the second one. And then the third one, of course, is the North American free trade agreement that I mentioned earlier that, in